

**Senate File 2056 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2056

BY CARLIN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the development of an actionable strategic  
2 plan to promote and support breastfeeding in the state.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1.  DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH — BREASTFEEDING  
2     QUALITY IMPROVEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN.

3     1.  The department of public health shall convene a group  
4     of stakeholders from various sectors to develop an actionable  
5     breastfeeding quality improvement strategic plan to determine  
6     the framework necessary to maximize breastfeeding support  
7     and improve the breastfeeding rate among all mothers in the  
8     state.  The strategic plan shall include goals and strategies  
9     to promote breastfeeding at the state, community, facility, and  
10    individual levels by identifying potential system interventions  
11    and establishing a consistent approach relative to maternity  
12    care and hospital practices; workplace, peer, mother and  
13    family, and health care professional supports and education;  
14    and media and social marketing messaging.  The strategic plan  
15    shall include steps to build collaborative partnerships and  
16    local coalitions among health care providers and health care  
17    facilities to follow updated evidence-based best practices,  
18    policies, and procedures in supporting breastfeeding as the  
19    preferred long-term infant feeding method.

20    2.  In developing the strategic plan, the stakeholder  
21    group shall review the state's existing policies, practices,  
22    and initiatives to maximize resources and to refocus and  
23    coordinate efforts at the state, local, and organizational  
24    levels.  The stakeholder group shall analyze existing data  
25    and make recommendations for strengthening the state's data  
26    collection and evaluation capabilities to support the strategic  
27    plan, bridge gaps in disparities, build and sustain capacity,  
28    promote professional and consumer education efforts, and  
29    support continuous program improvement.  The stakeholder group  
30    shall also analyze other state and national laws, strategic  
31    plans, initiatives, and programs to determine those which may  
32    be replicated or modified to meet the goals and strategies  
33    identified by the stakeholder group including but not limited  
34    to all of the following:

35    a.  The baby-friendly hospital initiative launched by the

1 world health organization and the united nations children's  
2 fund to provide evidence-based maternity care that supports  
3 optimal infant feeding outcomes and the mother-baby bond  
4 utilizing the ten steps to successful breastfeeding to improve  
5 breastfeeding awareness, education, and support within health  
6 care settings.

7     b. The American academy of pediatrics guidelines which  
8 promote exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months  
9 followed by breastfeeding in combination with the introduction  
10 of complementary foods for one year or longer as mutually  
11 desired by the mother and infant.

12     c. The 2011 surgeon general's call to action to support  
13 breastfeeding specifying twenty action steps for mothers and  
14 their families, communities, the health care sector, employers,  
15 research and surveillance, and the public health infrastructure  
16 to undertake in removing obstacles to and in supporting  
17 breastfeeding.

18     d. The business case for breastfeeding initiative and  
19 toolkit developed by the United States department of health  
20 and human services maternal and child health bureau and the  
21 national business group on health to implement policies that  
22 promote breastfeeding.

23     e. The mothers' milk bank of Iowa and other milk-sharing  
24 platform initiatives.

25     f. The United States department of agriculture's special  
26 supplementary nutrition program for women, infants, and  
27 children (WIC) program and the Medicaid program, to act as a  
28 foundation in promoting breastfeeding awareness and to provide  
29 skilled support not only for WIC and Medicaid participants  
30 but for the general public to help women initiate and sustain  
31 appropriate feeding practices, prevent difficulties, and  
32 overcome barriers.

33     3. The department of public health shall submit the  
34 strategic plan, which shall include goals, specific strategies,  
35 action steps, policy changes, and key partnerships necessary

1 to execute the strategic plan, to the governor and the general  
2 assembly by July 1, 2023.

3 EXPLANATION

4 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
5 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

6 This bill requires the department of public health (DPH)  
7 to convene stakeholders from various sectors to develop an  
8 actionable breastfeeding quality improvement strategic plan to  
9 determine the framework necessary to maximize breastfeeding  
10 support and improve the breastfeeding rate among all mothers  
11 in the state. The bill specifies that the strategic plan  
12 shall include goals and strategies by identifying potential  
13 system interventions and establishing a consistent approach  
14 relative to maternity care and hospital practices; workplace,  
15 peer, mother and family, and health care professional  
16 supports and education; and media and social marketing  
17 messaging. The strategic plan shall include steps to build  
18 collaborative partnerships and local coalitions to follow  
19 updated evidence-based best practices, policies, and procedures  
20 in supporting breastfeeding as the preferred long-term infant  
21 feeding method. The stakeholder group shall review the state's  
22 existing policies, practices, and initiatives; analyze existing  
23 data and make recommendations for strengthening the state's  
24 data collection and evaluation capabilities; and analyze other  
25 state and national laws, strategic plans, initiatives, and  
26 programs to determine those which may be replicated or modified  
27 to meet the goals and strategies identified by the stakeholder  
28 group, including those specified in the bill.

29 DPH shall submit the strategic plan to the governor and the  
30 general assembly by July 1, 2023.